

GISAXS with Nanoparticles on Liquids and with Multilayer Films on a Lab Source

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The Microfocus Source μ S is a versatile device providing a very high X-ray flux within a small spot size. With this lab-source we have collected (GI)SAXS data of outstanding quality on liquid and thin-film samples with structures in the nanometer scale. In conclusion the μ S now enables (GI)SAXS measurements in the home-lab with a quality which was in the past only reachable at Synchrotrons. With the new μ S^{High Brilliance} the flux could be increased by 30% for Cu, 50% for Ag and 60% for Mo radiation.

Incoatec Microfocus Source μ S and 2D Montel Optics

The μ S is the perfect upgrade for older equipment in X-ray diffractometry. It combines the advantages of a sealed-tube system with the superior data quality of conventional rotating anode systems. The μ S is also included in the new equipment of Bruker AXS: for SAXS in the NANOSTAR and for XRD in the D8 family with 2-dim detectors. The μ S consists of a microfocus source and a specially designed multilayer optics named Quazar.

The source

- high brilliance & best spectral purity
- Cu, Mo, Cr and Ag radiation available
- air cooled
- < 40 μ m spot size at the anode
- convenience of sealed-tube and three-year warranty
- high voltage generator

Optics	Divergence (mrad)	Beam size (mm)	Flux (10^8 ph/s)
ELM23	5.1	0.25	> 7
ELM32	1.0	0.8	> 2.5
PAM42	0.5	2	> 4

Different types of Quazar Optics for the μ S with Cu radiation for SAXS applications

Quazar Optics

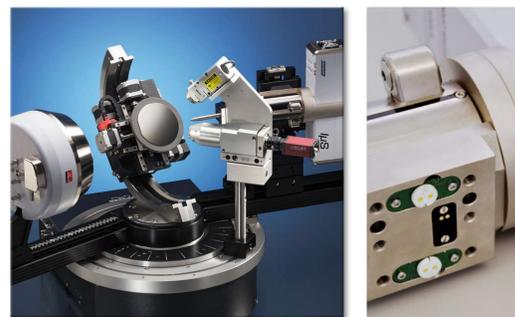
- 2-dim beam shaping
- collimating, focussing or collimating + focusing (hybrid)
- patented housing for high stability and easy alignment
- motorized alignment (optional)



Optics in high-stability housing

NEW with μ S^{High Brilliance}

- up to 60 % more flux due to improved optical design
- for Cu, Mo & Ag
- component recognition
- improved safety features
- compliant with Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC



μ S integrated in a new Bruker D8 DISCOVER (left) and component recognition (right)



New μ S^{High Brilliance} System with optics housing and 19" wide stand-alone generator



μ S with Dectris Pixel Detector

For rapid grazing incidence small-angle-scattering measurements (GISAXS) of liquid samples our μ S equipped with an ELM 23 optics was combined with a Dectris Pilatus detector. The set-up including the alignment can be changed from liquid to capillary samples in less than 30 min (picture and data: P. Šiffalovič, Slovak Academy of Science).

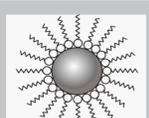
μ S with NANOSTAR

Incoatec's Microfocus Source, the μ S, provides the Bruker AXS NANOSTAR with a high-flux, collimated primary beam combined with the convenience of a sealed tube. The NANOSTAR uses the VANTEC-2000 detector which enables virtually noise-free, real-time 2D detection. In combination with the μ S the NANOSTAR is designed like a synchrotron SAXS beamline and gives the opportunity to perform WAXS measurements simultaneously.

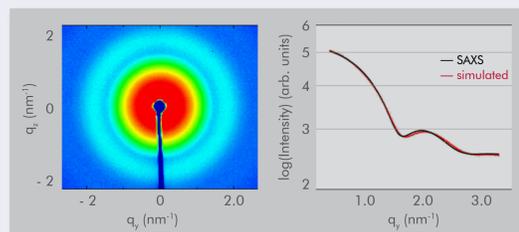


In-situ GISAXS of Nano-Particles on Liquid Surfaces

We performed GISAXS measurements with the μ S/Dectris system. Silver particles on a Langmuir film were analyzed at different surface pressures which were applied by means of a reduction of the surface area.

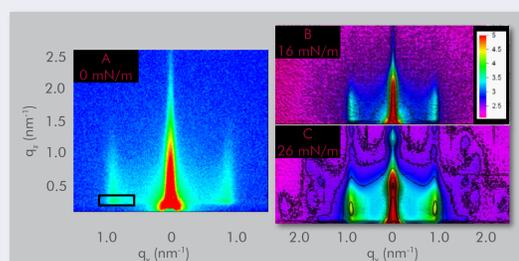


Sample: Langmuir film with silver nanoparticles: Organic envelope (oleic-acid, oleylamin)

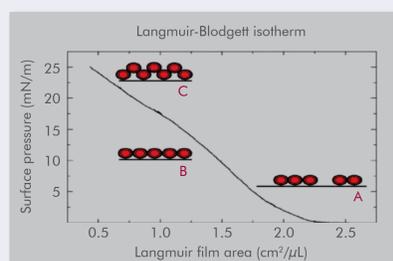


Analyzing the particle diameter: SAXS of diluted solution of Ag nanoparticles. Result: Metal core, radius = 2.9 ± 0.3 nm

- Experimental for GISAXS:
- angle of incidence: 0.2 deg
 - 180 s measurement time
 - aperture 350 μ m
 - the surface was pressed with 0 up to 26 mN/m



SAXS patterns at three different surface pressures:
 A) 0 mN/m (unpressed)
 B) 16 mN/m: intensity increases
 C) 26 mN/m: crystal-like peaks appear



- A) Unpressed surface: islands of nanoparticles are swimming on the surface without connection
 B) Increasing surface pressure: islands coalescence
 C) vertical formation of hexagonal layers

It was possible to study the formation process in-situ and time-resolved from unordered islands to ordered layers by increasing the pressure on the surface of the liquid film.

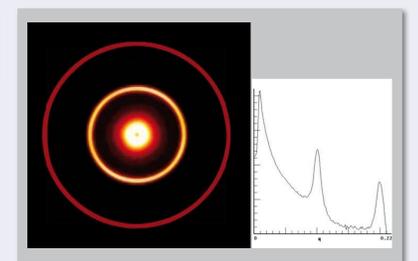
Home-Lab Small Angle X-ray Scattering

For the following measurements we used a NANOSTAR with μ S. The beam was collimated by a Quazar optics with a small divergence of 1 mrad. A typical standard measurement shows the superior quality in comparison to former set-ups with standard sealed tubes.

- Experimental for SAXS:
- 3-Pin-hole-geometry
 - 1035 mm detector distance
 - 1000 s exposure time

Sample: Silver behenate ($H_3C-(CH_2)_{20}-COOAg$)

Total integrated Intensity (left) and detector image with corresponding I-q plot (right):
 With an μ S at 30W we achieved 17.000 cps.
 The intensity of „old“ Nanostar: equipped with sealed tube+ cc-Göbel mirrors at 1.4 kW was only 3.300 cps



Grazing Incidence SAXS of Thin Films

The integration of the μ S into the NANOSTAR allows measurements, which usually need synchrotron facilities, to be performed in the home-lab. The figures show the results of a Mo/Si multilayer measured with the NANOSTAR and the synchrotron beamline BW4 at the Hasylab. Both measurements clearly show three Bragg sheets. In comparison the NANOSTAR results have a higher background and thus a lower resolution. However, all features required for data processing are visible.

This striking result gives the opportunity to plan future experiments without the restriction of beamline time. With an μ S the NANOSTAR enables a more efficient use of synchrotron beamline time and gives the opportunity to envision e.g. time- or temperature-resolved long-term experiments.

For more information see the publication:
 P. Šiffalovič et al., Vacuum 84 (2010) 19–25

